

CLAIMS

1. Process for the distribution of air enriched in oxygen to the passengers of an aircraft, in which there is
5 supplied to the passengers a first fraction of air enriched in oxygen from an independent source, during a phase of descent of the aircraft between a cruising altitude and a re-routing altitude, and there is produced, in an onboard separator, a second fraction of air enriched in oxygen, which is delivered
10 to the passengers at least during a substantially stabilized phase of the flight of the aircraft, taking place substantially at the re-routing altitude.

2. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that
15 the re-routing altitude is greater than 5,500 meters.

3. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the re-routing altitude is comprised between 6,000 and 8,000 meters.

20

4. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that the second fraction of enriched air has an oxygen content comprised between 60 and 95% and is produced at a pressure between 1.5 and 2.5 bars gauge.

25

5. Process according to claim 4, characterized in that
said second fraction of air is produced in a molecular sieve
concentrator (2).

5 6. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that
the independent source contains oxygen at a pressure higher
than 110 bars gauge.

7. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that,
10 during the phase of flight at the re-routing altitude,
substantially no more of the first fraction of air enriched in
oxygen is supplied to the passengers.

8. Process according to claim 1, characterized in that,
15 during said phase of descent, only the first fraction of
enriched air is supplied and during the substantially
stabilized phase of flight, only the second fraction of
enriched air is supplied.